

# Asthma in Arizona

## 2007 Fast Facts

### Asthma Defined

- A chronic respiratory disease where the small airways in the lungs become inflamed and narrowed in response to triggers.
- The triggers that signal an asthma attack include allergens, airway irritants (e.g. smoke), sharp changes in weather, exercise, and infections.
- Asthma attacks may involve shortness of breath, cough, wheezing, chest pain, chest tightening or any combination of these symptoms<sup>1</sup>.

### Prevalence<sup>2</sup>

	Arizona	U.S.
Lifetime asthma prevalence among adults 18 years and older	14.0%	13.1%
Current asthma prevalence among adults 18 years and older	8.7%	8.4%
Lifetime asthma prevalence among high school students	23.0%	20.3%
Current asthma prevalence among high school students	10.8%	10.9%

### Hospitalizations<sup>5</sup>

2007	Inpatient (n=6,732)	Emergency Department (n= 23,626)
Male	42.6%	48.1%
Female	57.4%	51.9%
American Indian/Alaska Native	3.19%	N/A
Asian	0.37%	
Black/African-American	9.41%	
Hispanic/Latino	25.0%	
White	59.6%	
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.15%	
Other	1.30%	
Under Age 18	41.3%	47.9%
Age 18 and Older	58.7%	52.1%
Average Length of Stay	3.1 days	0.17 days
Average Cost per Hospitalization	\$15,734	\$1,409
Total Charges for All Hospitalizations	\$105,919,186	\$33,278,444

### Mortality<sup>6</sup>

Rate per 1,000,000 population	2003	2004	2005	2006
Children under age 5	4.8	0.0	0.0	2.1 <sup>7</sup>
Children aged 5-14 years	1.2 <sup>7</sup>	1.1 <sup>7</sup>	2.2 <sup>7</sup>	5.5 <sup>7</sup>
Adolescents and adults aged 15-34 years	3.5 <sup>7</sup>	1.8 <sup>7</sup>	5.8 <sup>7</sup>	2.2 <sup>7</sup>
Adults aged 35-64 years	10.9 <sup>7</sup>	8.1	14.3	11.0
Adults 65 years and older	54.6	46.3	38.2	46.3

1. NCHS Health E-Stats, 2003
2. Percentages for prevalence of asthma are weighted to age, gender, and race.
3. Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2007; lifetime asthma indicates that the respondents were told they had asthma at some point in their lives and current asthma indicates that the respondents had asthma at the time they were surveyed
4. Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2007; lifetime asthma indicates that the respondents were told they had asthma at some point in their lives and current asthma indicates that the respondents had asthma at the time they were surveyed
5. Arizona Hospital Discharge Data (2007) includes hospitalizations from non-federal facilities only; IHS and Veterans Affairs data is not included. The hospitalizations are patients who had asthma as their primary diagnosis; analyses exclude refused or missing answers.
6. Arizona Vital Statistics, 2006 (p. 389)
7. These rates are based on fewer than 10 deaths and are not statistically reliable.